

TOY GLIDER

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[0001] This present invention relates to toys, and in particular, to a toy glider.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0002] Stick horses have been popular toys with children for many years. Stick horses essentially comprises a wooden stick with a plush horse head attached to one end. The idea behind the stick horse is that children place the wooden stick portion between their legs and 'pretend' to ride the horse.

[0003] Although the stick horse was a popular toy for many years, it is also a very outdated toy. Due to the fact that horses have been replaced as a means of transportation in modern society with automobiles, motorcycles, bus and planes, to name a few, the viability of a toy horse is diminished. With the modernization of transportation, children are more likely to gravitate to modern vehicles as playthings.

[0004] Although there exist toy cars and the like, there are presently no commercially available simple toys which allow children to 'pretend' to drive or pilot modern vehicles, such as cars, trucks, and airplanes. Thus, there is presently a need for toy which simulates this experience for children.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0005] An exemplary embodiment of the present invention comprises a toy glider including a shaft, a roller attached to a first end of the shaft, and a housing attached to a second opposing end of the shaft.

[0006] An exemplary embodiment of the present invention also comprises a method for manufacturing a toy glider including the steps of providing a shaft, coupling at least one roller to a first end of the shaft, and coupling at least one housing to a second opposing end of the shaft.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0007] Figure 1 is a left side view showing a toy glider according to a first exemplary embodiment of the present invention.

[0008] Figure 2 is a back side isometric view showing the toy glider of Figure 1.

[0009] Figure 3 is a back side isometric view showing the toy glider of Figure 1.

[0010] Figure 4 is a left side exploded view showing the toy glider of Figure 1.

[0011] Figure 5 is a top side exploded view showing the toy glider of Figure 1.

5 [0012] Figure 6 is a front view showing the toy glider of Figure 1.

[0013] Figure 7 is a rear view showing the toy glider of Figure 1.

[0014] Figure 8 is a top view showing the toy glider of Figure 1.

[0015] Figure 9 is a bottom view showing the toy glider of Figure 1.

[0016] Figure 10 is an exploded view of exemplary embodiments of the toy glider
10 showing interchangeable parts.

[0017] Figure 11 is front view of a toy glider according to a second exemplary
embodiment of the present invention.

[0018] Figure 12 is a rear view of a the toy glider of Figure 11.

[0019] Figure 13 is a front perspective view of the toy glider of Figure 11.

15 [0020] Figure 14 is a rear perspective view of the toy glider of Figure 11.

[0021] Figure 15 is a left side view of the toy glider of Figure 11.

[0022] Figure 16 is a top view of the toy glider of Figure 11.

[0023] Figure 17 is a bottom view of the toy glider of Figure 11.

[0024] Figure 18 is an exploded view of the toy glider of Figure 11.

20 [0025] Figure 19 is front view of a toy glider according to a third exemplary
embodiment of the present invention.

[0026] Figure 20 is a rear view of a the toy glider of Figure 19.

[0027] Figure 21 is a front perspective view of the toy glider of Figure 19.

[0028] Figure 22 is a rear perspective view of the toy glider of Figure 19.

[0029] Figure 23 is a left side view of the toy glider of Figure 19.

[0030] Figure 24 is a top view of the toy glider of Figure 19.

5 [0031] Figure 25 is a bottom view of the toy glider of Figure 19.

[0032] Figure 26 is an exploded view of the toy glider of Figure 19.

[0033] Figure 27 is front view of a toy glider according to a fourth exemplary embodiment of the present invention.

[0034] Figure 28 is a rear view of a the toy glider of Figure 27.

10 [0035] Figure 29 is a front perspective view of the toy glider of Figure 27.

[0036] Figure 30 is a rear perspective view of the toy glider of Figure 27.

[0037] Figure 31 is a left side view of the toy glider of Figure 27.

[0038] Figure 32 is a top view of the toy glider of Figure 27.

[0039] Figure 33 is a bottom view of the toy glider of Figure 27.

15 [0040] Figure 34 is an exploded view of the toy glider of Figure 27.

[0041] Figure 35 is front view of a toy glider according to a fifth exemplary embodiment of the present invention.

[0042] Figure 36 is a rear view of a the toy glider of Figure 35.

[0043] Figure 37 is a front perspective view of the toy glider of Figure 35.

20 [0044] Figure 38 is a rear perspective view of the toy glider of Figure 35.

[0045] Figure 39 is a left side view of the toy glider of Figure 35.

[0046] Figure 40 is a top view of the toy glider of Figure 35.

[0047] Figure 41 is a bottom view of the toy glider of Figure 35.

[0048] Figure 42 is an exploded view of the toy glider of Figure 35.

[0049] Figure 43 is front view of a toy glider according to a sixth exemplary embodiment of the present invention.

5 [0050] Figure 44 is a rear view of a the toy glider of Figure 43.

[0051] Figure 45 is a front perspective view of the toy glider of Figure 43.

[0052] Figure 46 is a rear perspective view of the toy glider of Figure 43.

[0053] Figure 47 is a left side view of the toy glider of Figure 43.

[0054] Figure 48 is a top view of the toy glider of Figure 43.

10 [0055] Figure 49 is a bottom view of the toy glider of Figure 43.

[0056] Figure 50 is an exploded view of the toy glider of Figure 43.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0057] Figures 1-3 show a toy glider 100 according to a first exemplary embodiment of the present invention. Figure 1 shows a left side view of the toy glider 100, and Figures 2
15 and 3 show isometric views. The toy glider 100 comprises a shaft 110, a roller 120, a housing 130, a front end 140 and a sound and/or light pad 150.

[0058] The shaft 110 may comprise a unitary member, or may comprises a two-piece 'snap-fit' construction, as is well known in the art. The roller 120 is coupled to a first end
20 111 of the shaft 110 and includes at least one wheel 121, which may be held in place by an axle (now shown) disposed in the roller body. The roller 120 may also include optional decorative members, such as decorative wings 122, 123 shown. As will be explained in detail below, the decorative wings 122, 123 may comprise a plurality of different designs, such as for example, the tail wings of a jet plane (or spaceship), the bumper and/or tail lights of an automobile, or other various designs.

25 [0059] The housing 130 preferably includes handles 133, 134 for grasping and holding the toy glider 100. As with the roller 120, the housing 130 may also include optional

decorative members, such as decorative wings 136 shown. As will be explained in detail below, the decorative wings 136 may comprise a plurality of different designs, such as for example, the wings of a jet plane (or spaceship), the rear view mirrors of an automobile, or other various designs.

5 [0060] The front end 140 preferably includes a toy windscreen 141 and a decorative bumper 142. As will be explained in detail below, the decorative bumper 142 may comprise a plurality of different designs, such as for example, the front end of a jet plane, the front end of an automobile, or other various designs.

10 [0061] The sound and/or light pad 150 may be configured to emit sounds, light displays, or both. The sound and/or light pad 150 may also include buttons, switches or other members which serve to actuate the sound and/or light displays. For example, if the toy glider 100 is made to resemble a police car, the sound and/or light pad 150 may include a 'siren' sound and flashing red lights.

15 [0062] As shown in Figures 4 and 5, the housing 130 may be formed of left half piece 131, and a right half piece 132 which are preferably coupled together at one end of the shaft 110, so as to secure a second end 112 of the shaft 110 therebetween. As also shown in Figures 4 and 5, the first end 111 of the shaft 110 may be disposed and secured within an opening in the roller 120.

20 [0063] Figures 6-9 show additional views of the toy glider 100. In particular, Figure 6 shows a front view of the toy glider 100, and Figure 7 shows a rear view. Figure 8 shows a top view of the glider 100, and Figure 9 shows a bottom view.

25 [0064] Figure 10 is an exploded view of the toy glider 100 showing parts which are interchangeable. For example, although the toy glider 100 is described above as including a roller 120, decorative wings 136, and a decorative bumper 142, and alternate exemplary
30 embodiment of the toy glider 100' may be manufactured which includes roller 120', decorative wings 136', and decorative bumper 142'. As will be noted, the roller 120, decorative wings 136, and a decorative bumper 142 of the toy glider 100 are made to respectively resemble the front end, side wings and rear wings of a jet plane, and the roller 120', decorative wings 136', and a decorative bumper 142' of the toy glider 100' are made to
30 respectively resemble the front end, rear view mirrors and rear bumper of an automobile.

[0065] It will be noted by those of ordinary skill in the art that a plurality of different rollers (e.g., 120, 120'), wings (e.g., 136, 136') and bumpers (e.g., 142, 142') may be manufactured and provided to make the toy glider resemble different types of vehicles and/or objects (e.g., motorcycle, animal, cartoon character, etc.). The interchangeability of these parts permits the manufacturer of the toy glider to tailor the toy to different child's tastes with minimal effort and expense.

[0066] In operation, a child straddles the shaft 110 of the toy glider 100 and grasps the handles 133, 134. The child then moves the toy glider around using his or her feet while holding the handle 133, 134. The roller 120 is preferably disposed on the ground during operation, and the wheel 121 thereof rolls along the ground as the child moves the toy glider 100 about. As discussed above, the sound and/or light pad 150 may be activated during operation of the toy glider 100. This may be accomplished either by the actuation of a button, switch or other means by the child, automatically upon movement of the wheel 121, automatically upon grasping of the handles 133, 134, and/or by some other mechanism known to those of ordinary skill in the art.

[0067] Figures 11-18 show a toy glider 200 according to a second exemplary embodiment of the present invention. The toy glider 200 comprises a shaft 210, a roller 220, a housing 230, a front end 240 and a sound and/or light pad 250. The toy glider 200 is similar in appearance to the toy glider 100, and like reference numerals denote like elements. However, the roller 220, handles 233, 234, decorative wings 236 and decorative bumper 242 are made to resemble a spaceship.

[0068] Figures 19-26 show a toy glider 300 according to a third exemplary embodiment of the present invention. The toy glider 300 comprises a shaft 310, a roller 320, a housing 330, a front end 340 and a sound and/or light pad 350. The toy glider 300 is similar in appearance to the toy glider 100, and like reference numerals denote like elements. However, the roller 320, handles 333, 334, decorative wings 336 and decorative bumper 342 are made to resemble a police truck.

[0069] Figures 27-34 show a toy glider 400 according to a fourth exemplary embodiment of the present invention. The toy glider 400 comprises a shaft 410, a roller 420, a housing 430, a front end 440 and a sound and/or light pad 450. The toy glider 400 is similar in appearance to the toy glider 100, and like reference numerals denote like elements.

However, the roller 420, handles 433, 434, decorative wings 436 and decorative bumper 442 are made to resemble a motorcycle.

[0070] Figures 35-42 show a toy glider 500 according to a fifth exemplary embodiment of the present invention. The toy glider 500 comprises a shaft 510, a roller 520, a housing 530, a front end 540 and a sound and/or light pad 550. The toy glider 500 is similar in appearance to the toy glider 100, and like reference numerals denote like elements. However, the roller 520, handles 533, 534, decorative wings 536 and decorative bumper 542 are made to resemble a fire truck.

[0071] Figures 43-50 show a toy glider 600 according to a sixth exemplary embodiment of the present invention. The toy glider 600 comprises a shaft 610, a roller 620, a housing 630, a front end 640 and a sound and/or light pad 650. The toy glider 600 is similar in appearance to the toy glider 100, and like reference numerals denote like elements. However, the roller 620, handles 633, 634, decorative wings 636 and decorative bumper 642 are made to resemble a delivery truck.

[0072] Although the invention has been described in terms of exemplary embodiments, it is not limited thereto. Rather, the appended claims should be construed broadly to include other variants and embodiments of the invention which may be made by those skilled in the art without departing from the scope and range of equivalents of the invention.